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student life and the environment



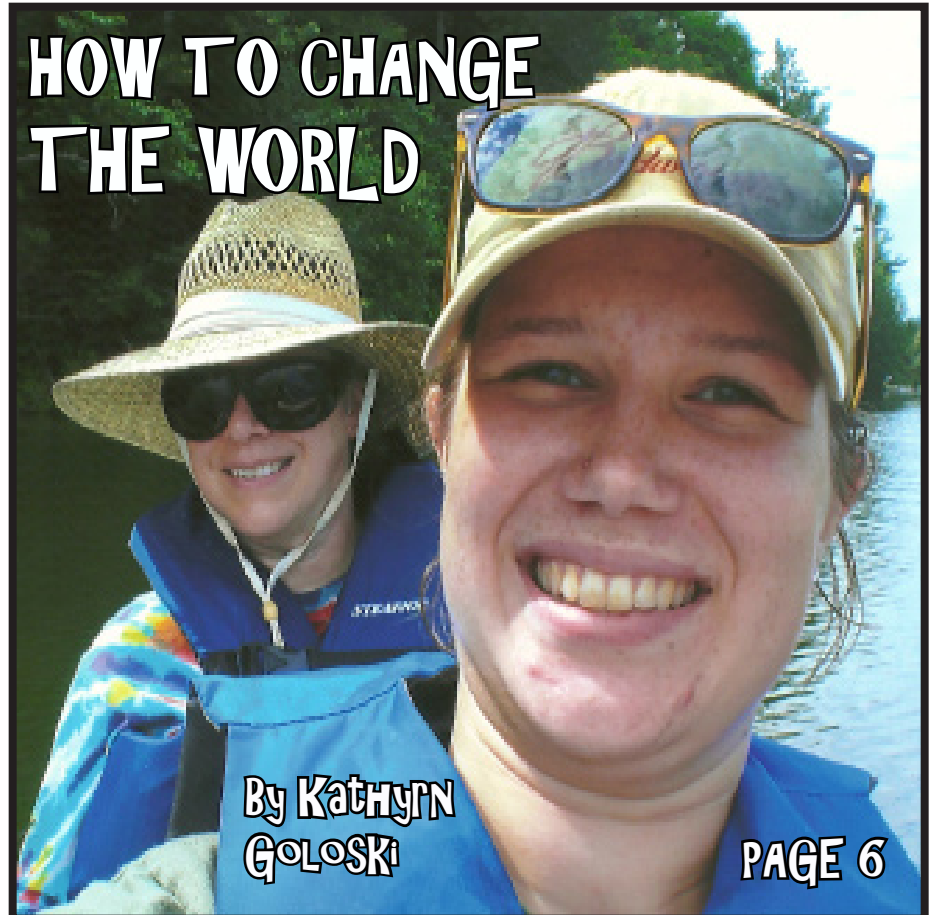
the bi-weekly journal published by Stumpies, for Stumpies



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"While I remember my mother as being an artist, looking back, I realize she, as well as my father, were also environmentalists in the most practical of ways. They did not write activist manuscripts, or lie in the middle of the road to prove a point, instead they raised their children to respect nature and appreciate it for its beauty."



WWW.ESF.EDU/ORG/KNOTHOLE

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AROUND THE QUAD

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Wanakena Winter Weekend

Ranger School, Wanakena. Beat the winter blues and get away up north to the beautiful Adirondacks! A weekend at our extension campus in Wanakena NY...meet the Ranger school students, participate in some winter sports, relax by the fire, take a hike, see some great local musicians. \$10 for ESF students. Includes lodging, food and transportation. Sign-ups in 110 Bray beginning at the end of January/early February.

Sponsor: Undergraduate Student Association | Contact: Leah Flynn, 470-4865

Ongoing through Sunday, February 28, 2010

Sunday, February 28, 2010

What: Strike for Peace Bowlathon

When: Session A : 12:30 - 2:30 pm and Session B : 3 - 5 pm

Where: Flamingo Bowl, 7239 Oswego Rd. (Rt. 57), Liverpool

Details: Start forming your team now.

For more information please contact: Jessica, 472-5478

Monday, March 1, 2010

What: Onondaga Land Rights & Our Common Future Series

From the "Doctrine of Discovery" to International Recognition of Rights

When: 7 pm

Where: Grewen Auditorium, Le Moyne College, Salt Springs Rd., Syracuse.

Details: Tonya Gonella Frichner, Phil Arnold and John Diefenbacher-Krall discuss the "Doctrine of Discovery" and UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Free. Followed by a reception and the opportunity for discussion groups.

For more information contact: Andy, 472-5478 / Contact: Jack Manno, 315-470-6816

<http://www.peacecouncil.net/Events.htm>

MARCELLUS SHALE PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator

Chris Bolt, News Director, WAER Syracuse

Panelists

Adam Schultz
Esq., Partner, Gilbert Stinziano Heintz & Smith, P.C.

Dr. Donald Siegel
Professor of Earth Sciences, Syracuse University

David Palmerton
President, Palmerton Group, LLC

Joe Heath
General Counsel, Onondaga Nation

Monday, March 1, 2010

5 pm - 6:30 pm

Marshall Auditorium, SUNY ESF

Cover photo credit:

WESTCOTT: <http://www.dailyorange.com/news/2008/09/22/News/Westcott.Theater.Raises.Curtain.After.Year.Hiatus-3443484.shtml>

GLOBE W/ MICE: <http://futureblog.pl/index.php/2009/05/internet-plaszczyszna-globalizacji-handlu/>

COVER PHOTO: Kathryn Goloski

COMPOST: Facebook event- "New Aerated Composting System!"

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 ✕
28 ✕	1 ✕	2	3	4	5	6

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

by Kathryn Goloski

High Speed Rail: An Advantage or Drawback?

The High Speed Railway, recently proposed for central New York, has been mainly endorsed to boost the dwindling economy and to improve the efficiency rate and service to passengers. High speed rail is "a type of passenger rail transport that operates significantly faster than the normal speed of rail traffic." The high speed rail services "regularly operate at or above 250km/h on new tracks, or 200km/h on existing tracks and most are electrically driven via overhead lines" (Ny-Gov).

Due to the impact the railway system will have on the economy, environment, politics, and general welfare of the citizens and visitors of New York, there are many issues that will emerge if this system is built. The high speed rail has many advantages and has the capability to be economically and fuel efficiently effective. High Speed rail "has the potential to renew the entire Upstate region and radically change our consumption of foreign oil" (O'Toole).

However, "HSR (High-Speed Rail), like any transport system, is not inherently convenient, fast, clean, nor comfortable. All of this depends on design, implementation, maintenance, operation and funding (Ny-Gov). Also, having a long railway system split through the landscape of central New York from New York City to Buffalo, could ruin small communities and, perhaps, oppress indigenous peoples.

What's your opinion on the subject?

Anthrax: From Soil to Animals to Humans

Anthrax, as you might be familiar with, is a bacterial spore which can be found naturally in the soil around the world, and has been verified to subsist for years. Not only is this substance deadly to humans in some circumstances, but the spores, existing in the soil and air, have infected and killed a considerable amount of animals. Cattle, goats, sheep, and other wild animals have been infected. In certain cases, this infection can be passed on to humans.

Eating undercooked meat from infected animals or letting a cut come in contact with clothing made from a diseased animal, are key causes of this deadly virus. Inhalation

of anthrax spores in the environment, from airplane exhaust to its crushed powder distribution, is the deadliest form of obtaining this disease. "Historically, the mortality rate for naturally occurring inhalation anthrax has been high. Death occurs in about 75 percent of all cases" (eMedtv). However, the inhalation of anthrax is quite rare, depending on its source. Antibiotics and vaccines are currently being used to treat those infected

and are helping to prevent the spread of anthrax.

Do you think anthrax in our environment is something for us to worry about?

UNICEF Tap Project

If you haven't heard yet, UNICEF has been building on its campaign to provide developing countries with access to clean water. "UNICEF provides children with clean water and sanitation in more than 100 countries." In order to do so, UNICEF's goal is to "reduce the number of people without access to safe water and basic sanitation by 50% by 2015. Of the nearly 900 million people who lack access to clean water, almost half are children" (USF).

This project was started in 2007 in New York City. However, the Tap Project has been building up a large following for the past few years. Next month, from March 21st through the 27th, World Water Week 2010 will be taking place across the country. Thousands of restaurants will be helping to raise money to donate to this cause. With the funds raised, from those generous enough to donate \$1 for the typically free tap water from restaurants, UNICEF will be able to support their "water, sanitation, and hygiene programs" around the world (USF).

Ask in your local restaurants about the UNICEF Tap Project and help get other restaurants involved!



Jessica Lynn Siart

WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

by Jenna Boshart

A Snowless Winter Olympics

Vancouver, Canada is known for its beautiful scenery, amazing restaurants and shopping, diverse cultural atmosphere, and adventure driven recreations. No wonder Vancouver was the city of choice for the 2010 Olympics! Only one thing this beautiful city is missing: snow. With a similar climate to Seattle, Vancouver only receives roughly 19 inches (48 cm) of snow each year.

On February 12, 2010 the Opening Ceremony for Winter Olympics was held in Vancouver. You may be wondering how this relatively rainy city was able to host the Olympics when the temperature that day was 48 degrees F. Well, they trucked in the snow. Spokeswoman Renee Smith-Valade explained that they had to “truck in about three dozen loads of snow each day from Manning Park, more than two hours drive east of Vancouver.”

The primary concern of everyone involved was to make sure the 2010 Olympics started on schedule, but no one gave a thought to what the environmental impacts could be as a result of drastically changing the Vancouver landscape to meet human needs. Even though the impact will most likely be very minimal the Vancouver case is just one small example of humans adapting their environment to meet their needs rather than adapting to the environmental conditions present and moving the Olympics to a new location



<http://tvnz.co.nz/2010-winter-olympics/organisers-truck-in-snow-mountains-melt-3347914>

Green Energy, Creative Design

In late 2010, construction will begin on a volcano-shaped biomass station near Middlehaven, UK. This uniquely designed 279-foot-high biomass plant will run on palm kernel shell which is currently the waste product from palm-oil plantations in Malaysia. This will ensure that no agricultural land will be switched from growing food to biofuels. Project director Matthew Day explained that “the plant’s entire operations-including fuel transportation from Malaysia-would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 80 percent as compared with running a coal-powered plant, and no black cloud smoke would be visible from the dead quiet station.”

A Bleak Future for the Copenhagen Accord

On January 31st 55 countries, including the United States, China, India, Japan, Brazil, and Australia, submitted their Copenhagen Accord pledges to curb their emissions by 2020. Two weeks later China and Australia began working on a \$60 billion coal deal. In the agreement, Australia will provide Chinese power stations with enough coal to last the next two decades. How exactly is China going to be able to accomplish their pledge to reduce their carbon intensity by 40 to 45 percent from 2005 by 2020? Unfortunately the Copenhagen Accord is merely an agreement between these 55 countries and has is not legally binding.



<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/01/100127-green-power-plant-volcano-picture/>

THE JUMPOFF: Westcott Theater

by *Julienne Smith*

Do you love to dance and sing to local and/or well-known bands? There are quite a few places like this in Syracuse, such as the Westcott Theater. There is always a variety of bands playing at the Westcott Theater both during the week and weekends. I attended a show on a Tuesday, February 8, to see a band called SOJA, who are from Virginia and Washington D.C. area. The band that opened for them is a local band called Akuma Roots, who are well known in the ESF community mainly due to playing at the Oakland block parties in the past.

The Westcott is located on Westcott Street across from the Metro sushi bar (who also has live music from time to time). It has the look of a 1950s theater with bright blinking lights.

Inside there is a small bar with a selection of local beers including Middle Ages and Westcott ale as well as the usual beers like Bud Light and a small selection of liquors. There is also an area for bands to sell their merchandise and CDs. The stage is a great size for any band playing at the Westcott and the area where the show goes on watch the performance is a perfect for a Syracuse crowd.

The Westcott Theater is a wonderful place for local bands to start their career. It gets their name out to the public with the show, and spreads even more with their CDs starting circulation. The local bands that play are diverse in genre which makes the Westcott enviable for all preferences of the students and other citizens of Syracuse and the surrounding areas.

SOJA is reggae bands who started in Virginia

and has grown more popular and have made their way up to New York. They are an example of a more well known band, demonstrating that more than local bands play at the theater. They played a magnificent show, as did Akuma Roots for the opening act. They got the whole crowd dancing and singing, and no one left unhappy.

If you are looking for something to do and you want to hear some great music, keep the Westcott in mind. You are guaranteed a great evening of fun and dancing so bring your dancing shoes and a smile.



http://blog.syracuse.com/today/2008/11/081124_westcott.jpg



HOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD

By Kathryn Goloski

“And this is Kate, the one who is going to change the world!” is how my mother introduced me to the nurses at the hospital as she lay dying of lung cancer from exposure to second hand smoke, summer of 2009. She was a non smoker: age 49.

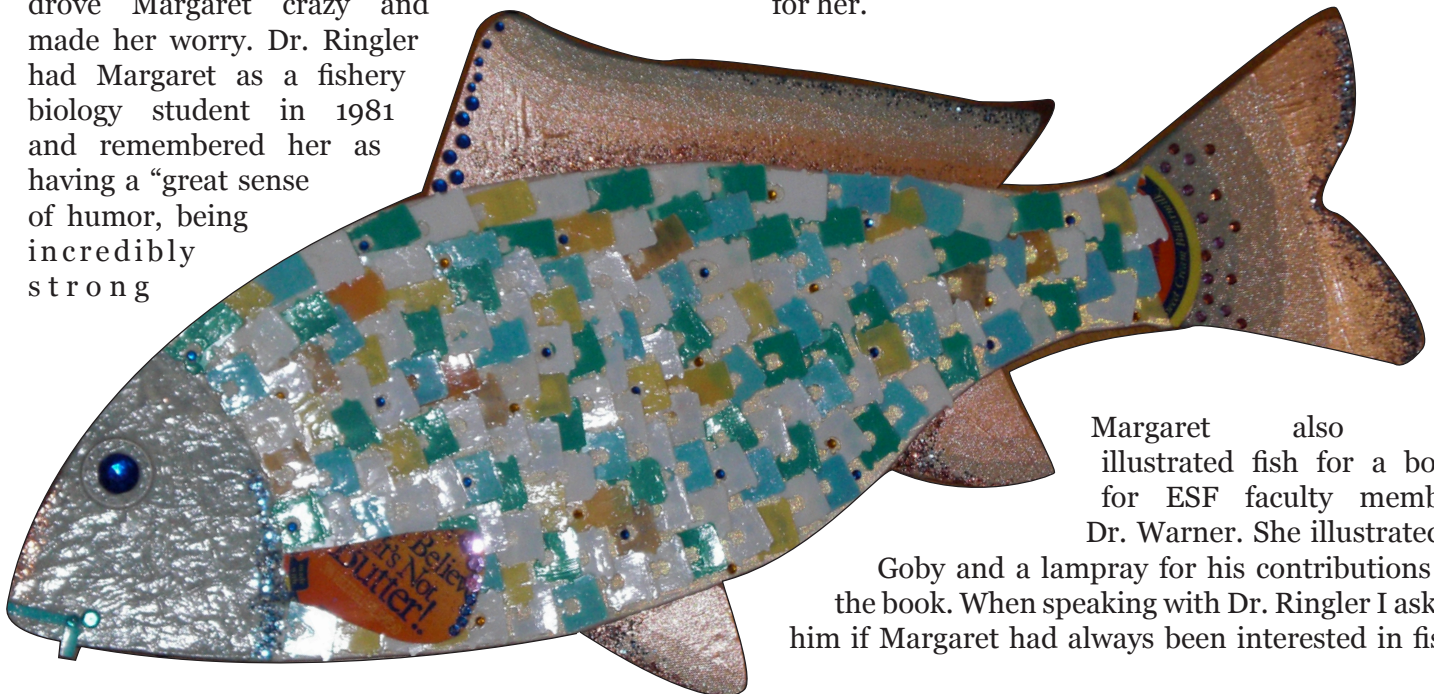
Margaret Fowler Goloski was a SUNY ESF alumna. She received her Bachelors in Fish and Wildlife Biology in 1981, after transferring to ESF after one year spent at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY. James Goloski, who Margaret was married to for 31 years said, when asked about how she ended up at ESF, that she wanted to be a ranger at first, and wanted to go to Paul Smith’s College or Wanakena, but her parents looked down their noses at state school, and so she went to St Lawrence University instead. “I ruined that, though.” James said with a sheepish grin. “She struck a deal with her parents that she could marry me if she finished the degree.” Margaret was accepted to SUNY ESF as a transfer student and so she and James were married and moved to Baldwinsville, NY.

From Baldwinsville Margaret commuted to ESF, some of the time on her own, but some of the time she carpooled with Dr. Neil Ringler, who lives in Baldwinsville. Dr. Ringler recalled the carpooling adventures as amusing and intellectual. He remembers driving to school early in the morning in his “beast of a car,” the Vega, and reviewing his lecture notes while he drove. “I don’t know what’s worse, that or texting,” he joked, “Now I don’t do either.” He said it always drove Margaret crazy and made her worry. Dr. Ringler had Margaret as a fishery biology student in 1981 and remembered her as having a “great sense of humor, being incredibly strong

willed,” and being very concerned with “Doing things properly in terms of the environment.”

After graduation Margaret worked a number of jobs, one being the manager at a health food store, until she and James had children, when she became a stay home mom. I do not remember my mother being an “environmentalist,” but I do remember spending countless afternoons walking the trails at Beaver Lake Nature Center with her, fishing as a family at Fair Haven Beach, and going on camping trips for weeks at a time at Lake Eaton in the Adirondack Mountains. “We stopped there once and fell in love with the place,” James told me. I remember my mother making my brother, sister, and me clothes, and I remember her baking and cooking meals from scratch. And I remember my mother as an artist.

Once my brother sister and I were all in full day school my mother went back to school at SUNY Oswego to get her Bachelor’s in Fine Arts, and later a Master’s in Ceramics. One of her biggest collections of art is a collection of low relief wall hangings. Each is a fish made out of recycled materials: one has the plastic tabs used to seal bags of bread as scales, one has the pull tabs on soda cans as scales, and another, her biggest fish reaching seven feet in length, has tin can lids as scales, to name a few. For one fish, the one she called “The City Fish” she picked up metal scraps and broken glass from the side of the road to decorate the fish as well as cigarette butts, which my grandmother saved for her.



Margaret also illustrated fish for a book for ESF faculty member Dr. Warner. She illustrated a

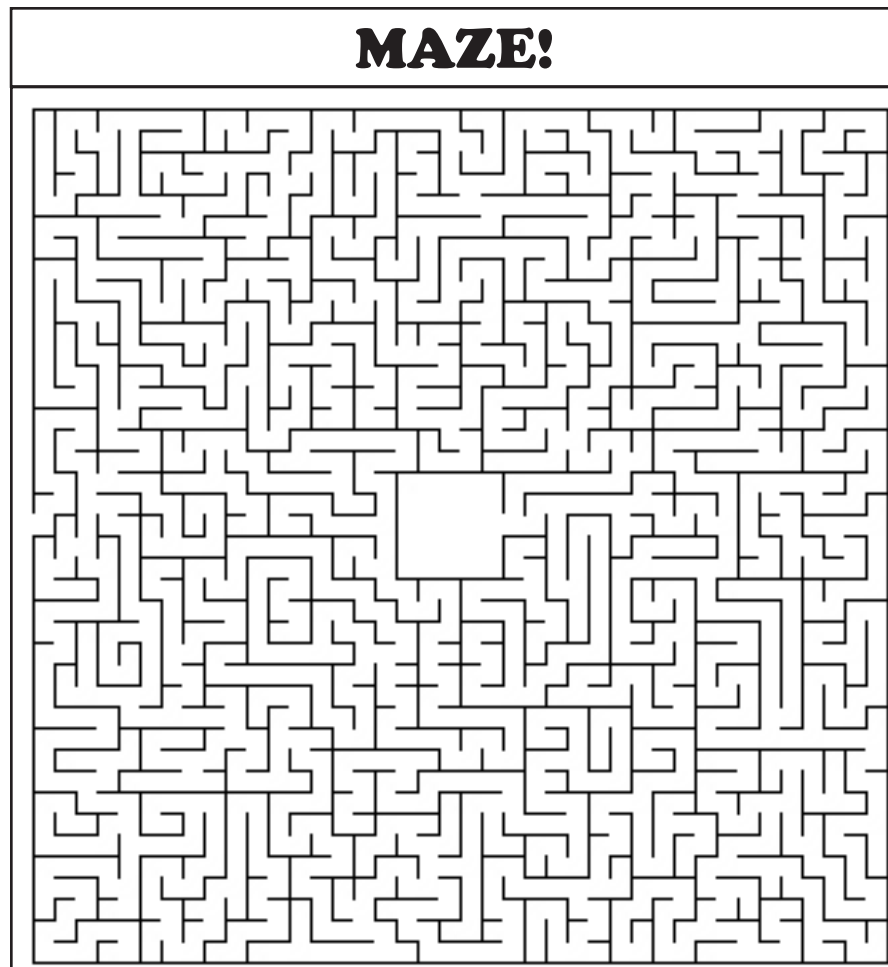
Goby and a lampray for his contributions to the book. When speaking with Dr. Ringler I asked him if Margaret had always been interested in fish,

or if it was his class which inspired her enthusiasm for them. He said he felt that it was something in which she had always had interest. “Did she go fishing as a kid?” he asked me. I said she had. Dr. Ringler nodded his head and said that fishing as a kid is where interest and passion comes from. I couldn’t agree more.

While I remember my mother as being an artist, looking back, I realize she, as well as my father, were also environmentalists in the most practical of ways. They did not write activist manuscripts, or lie in the middle of the road to prove a point, instead they raised their children to respect nature and appreciate it for its beauty, the sense of community which experiencing it can bring, and the peace which it can instill. They raised children who appreciate home made whole grain bread and carrot sticks, children who recycle,

and don’t litter, children who understand the impact their actions make on the environment, and most of all children who wish to educate others through sharing the experience of nature with them.

My thesis will be about Experiential Wilderness Education and how experiencing nature shapes one’s perception of the world and one’s development of environmental ethics. When my mother introduced me to her nurses at the hospital as “the one who was going to change the world” I did not believe her. It wasn’t until later when I started piecing together my thesis topic that I realized she was right, and that the reason I am capable of changing the world is because it was she who shaped mine.



Point Counter-Point: Is Sustainable Development Possible?



POINT

by Bobby Brittain

The year is 2060. The word *sustainability* hasn't been uttered in years because being sustainable has been molded seamlessly into every facet of life. A troupe of children walk together down Main Street USA excited with anticipation for today's baseball game in one of the city's multiple parks. The children have been told stories by their parents that an oil refinery once stood in that park. The children don't believe most of their parent's stories. What they see is a field of fun and opportunity.

As the children pass a local shoe shop two women are inside debating about what size shoe fits best instead of worrying about the size of their carbon footprint. Next to this shoe shop is John and Jane Smith's café. In a booth next to the window sits a biomedical engineer, city planner, and a local artist who are collaborating about plans for a new community awareness program. Sustainability is no longer a choice or option, it is the norm amongst all lifestyles.

These future scenarios illustrated above are the fruits of today's and tomorrow's sustainable development seedlings. These seedlings include, but are not limited to: comprehensive planning at all scales ranging from the neighborhood to the regional scale, adaptive re-use of existing urban space, and increased density and proximity.

Comprehensive planning provides the vision and long term strategy that is necessary for sustainable development. One of the major advantages of a comprehensive plan is its ability to establish a timeline that is composed of phases and funding strategies. This timeline establishes a predictable future for development which encourages people to embrace and adopt it as the future of their own communities. People have to understand that these plans, if designed correctly, take time, preferably a long time. That is why the story above takes place in 2060. By the way, 2060 is about as rough as a 60-grit piece of sandpaper for an estimate.

Another strategy is the adaptive re-use of existing spaces, especially in our cities. Currently, it is very hard to get people to develop next to unattractive urban spaces because it will not

help property values. However, public policy and incentives would help turn these out casted spaces into attractive assets to communities. In turn, communities will take stewardship over these spaces and champion

for their improvement. The story about the neighborhood children alludes to a future where brownfield-like spaces have been so completely remedied the scars are fully healed. All it takes is changes in public policies and time.

Finally, sustainability can be achieved if the urban environment is treated like a living and breathing ecosystem. This system can only work properly if the people living inside of it are very close in proximity to almost everything they need. Also, in order for this system to breathe properly it needs as many people as it can sustain. In essence, diverse density is the solution to creating a vibrant and sustainable future. Proximity and density are what brought the biomedical engineer, city planner, and artist together in one place to exchange ideas. These exchanges of ideas are what will ultimately feed a sustainable future.

"Comprehensive planning provides the vision and long term strategy that is necessary for sustainable development."

COUNTERPOINT

by Takayuki Suzuki

Sustainable development is a serious topic that has gradually gained public attention. However, people wonder how we can deal with sustainable development, because the meaning of word is still vague and it contains broad connotations. I believe that sustainable development is NOT possible with the current economic and environmental situations. I will reveal why sustainable development is not possible with several reasons in later paragraphs.

E-waste

Currently, E-waste, or Electric Waste, (such as computers, cell phones, televisions, and other kinds of electric devices in both developed and developing countries), has been increasing. Products are much advanced by technology as a result of pursuing sustainability. For instance, the eco-car is a great example, because electric motors are used instead of combustion engines to be more sustainable for the environment. However, these electric devices now have a serious environmental problem. Every 8 months, new types of electric devices appear in the market, and old types are discarded as E-waste. The United States discarded E-waste such as 20.6 million televisions, 157.3 million computer products, 126.3 million cell phones, 12 million laptops, and 31.9 million computer monitors in 2007. Moreover, these E-wastes were exported into developing countries, such as China, from The United States because the U.S. still does not have the skills to deal with them. Most E-waste dumped into developing countries has leached many chemical compounds into land. As a result, the land is polluted and it also creates serious health problems for both humans and nature. As the economy is developing in advanced nations, many developing countries still struggle with dealing with E-waste problems and environmental degradation. Therefore, this shows how even with advanced technology, sustainable development is not occurring.

Jevons Paradox

William Stanley Jevons states: as technological improvements increase the efficiency with which a resource is used, the total consumption of that resource may increase, rather than decrease. More specifically the Jevons paradox implies that the introduction of technologies with greater energy efficiency may

“As the economy is developing in advanced nations, many developing countries still struggle with dealing with E-waste problems and environmental degradation.”

finally cause the overall energy consumption to rise. Sustainable development, especially pursuing energy efficiency on products, misleads people's behavior toward unsustainable development.

Human Population and GDP Growth

Global population is expected to increase from slightly under 6.5 billion in 2005 to 8.2 billion in 2030. This number of growth rate also implies that consumption will also increase because of the increasing in human population.

As a result of technological development, productivity in worker's place is also increasing now. It means that GDP is also growing in developing countries because each hour of work gains more value and people can get a higher salary in an hour.

For these reasons I am of the position that sustainable development is NOT possible. As long as our consumption continues, we cannot stop discarding E-waste. As long as technological development continues, people will be too far away to coexist with nature. Currently, sustainable development's definition promotes an unsustainable society.

Green Campus Initiative

COMPOST

by Shaylyn Decker

It would be assumed that as an environmental school we would have a well-established composting system in place for years. That's not the case, it seems as though we've been on the cusp of a system but none of them continually worked for longer than a few semesters.

Last year the Green Campus Initiative (GCI) at ESF took the matters of organic compost into their own hands. The idea was on many students' minds but it needed a few strong characters that could carry this initiative through. Justin Heavey and Hannah Morgan along with the help of many GCI members were the backbone of this entire operation.

The ball began rolling last semester when Peter Moon from O2Compost came to speak to GCI about extensive composting systems. The different types of composting systems were all explained to the group. Introduced was the idea of aerated compost, a system that would allow for organic material to decompose at a faster rate, producing useable compost sooner. Justin Heavey, an Environmental Studies student, took a lot of initiative with this project and began talking to the school administrators about the installation of a productive system.

O2Compost supported ESF's composting mission by donating rotating bins and helping design the system that would be used on campus. Over winter break Heavey, Morgan, and Andrew Dorr assembled the 4x4 aerated compost bin. The Onondago County Resource Recovery Act donated some starter compost material to help launch the new system.

Thursday, February 11 was the day when the collection bins were placed in building across ESF, and it all began. Heavey has coordinated members of GCI to empty the collection bins into the aerated system on specific days each week. This well thought-out process will surely disallow and faults. Each collection bin has a helpful sign above it instructing what materials can and cannot be composted.

COLLECTION BIN LOCATIONS:

- 10 Marshall Hall Gallery
- Illick EFB Lounge
- Baker Lab Snack Area
- Moon Basement Snack Area
- Bray Basement Snack Area



New collection bin! (DORIAN KESSLER)



Aerated Compost System! (DORIAN KESSLER)

So far this has been a successful effort towards maintaining a constant functioning system that can be utilized by all members of the ESF community. GCI has worked hard and has accomplished something that has been idealized by ESF students for years. This is a very exciting achievement, but it's going to take everyone here on campus to help sustain and keep the system going for years to come.

*Make sure to use the collection bins to help add to the compost material! If you want to get involved and help out come to **GCI meetings Thursdays at 7PM in 105 Marshall.***

Where Are They Now? *by Jennifer Joline*

THE KNOTHOLE sits down with 2003 Graduate Jen Cash

Jen Cash and I met in our hometown, Cobleskill, NY, where we enjoyed post-high school experiences in fields and woods around fires. In May 2005, Jen brought me to Syracuse for the first time to see Jane Goodall speak at the graduation ceremony. We put on our best skirts, hopped into Jen's little white Mazda, and traveled from Cobleskill for an adventure. We cruised down Interstate 90 on the warm May day listening to music and talking. We finally arrived, settled ourselves on the cement seats of the Dome, and listened to Jane. She was phenomenal. I was struck by how wise she was and her powerful presence in front of thousands. It was this experience, that I owe to my good friend and ESF alumni, Jen Cash that persuaded me to attend SUNY ESF.

Jen Cash is a person that strikes you as absolutely full of life. I have known her for nearly seven years, and she has always been on the path to success. She is extremely driven, passionate about her work, and remains inspiringly level-headed...even in the age of apocalyptic environmentalists.

Jen was initially dissuaded to attend ESF thanks to a less-than-enthusiastic tour guide, but chose to attend ESF after a last minute review of the course guidebook. Her decision to attend ESF occurred right after experiencing a spectacular crash and "embarrass yourself-in-front-of-total-strangers" situation during an orientation game of spinning around a bat and sprinting across the quad. "There was a good balance between fun and work at ESF with the opportunity to interact with a rare combination of people (foresters to vegans) on a daily basis," said Cash.

Cash graduated from SUNY ESF in 2003 with a degree in Environmental Studies. Then she went on to get her masters at the University of Montana in Resource Conservation. Always open-minded and ready for adventure, Jen traveled to South Africa several times to examine the effects of HIV/AIDS on conservation efforts for her masters thesis.



Since her masters, Cash transitioned from international conservation to domestic conservation, and currently works for the Natural Resource Group as an environmental consultant. She assists in planning and permitting linear energy projects, and providing field support when projects go into construction. She helps construction crews maintain compliance through the construction process and even "green-up" their field operations.

Jen aspires to continue improving environmental values and construction practices for large-scale domestic energy projects, and voluntarily work with protected areas to identify corridor areas. She wants to help develop corridors in order to provide migration options for animals impacted by climate change and development.

Cash's advice to current stumpies is to take advantage of the opportunity all around you while attending classes! ESF is full of professors that have contacts all over the world and are famous in their line of study. Cash highly recommends independent study and internships to students – so that they can really find out what they want to do.

SUDOKU!

